

Appl. No.: 10/775,708
Amdt. dated September 7, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 7, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim Listing:

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)
7. (Currently amended) A disc storage unit comprising:
 - a case;
 - a tray supported by the case and configured to support an array of discs in respective parallel substantially vertical planes across which respective coaxial axes of the discs pass substantially horizontally;
 - a disc-raising mechanism comprising:
 - a plurality of fingers activatable to lift one of the discs from the tray within its respective plane to thereby render the disc non- coaxial with other discs that might be supported by the tray,
 - a pivot bar having a slidably mounted carriage beam from which said fingers extend and a crank arm;

an indexing mechanism configured to cause the disc-raising mechanism to raise others of said discs in a like manner;

an electric motor for pivoting the pivot bar; and

a gearbox that reduces output speed of the electric motor and drives the pivot bar, wherein the gearbox comprises an output gear having an eccentric pin to which a link is attached ~~wherein~~ and said link is attached to said crank arm ; and the indexing mechanism comprises a shaft extending parallel to the pivot bar and driven by the output gear, having one or more rings affixed thereto and extending thereabout, and a block interacting with the carriage beam and having a plurality of pins extending therefrom, said pins interacting with the rings to transfer the block and the carriage beam linearly along the pivot bar.

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) The disc storage unit of Claim [[8]] Z wherein the block is mounted to slide upon a rod that extends parallel to the pivot bar.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A disc storage unit comprising:

a case;

a tray supported by the case and configured to support an array of discs in
respective parallel substantially vertical planes across which respective coaxial axes of the
discs pass substantially horizontally;

a disc-raising mechanism comprising:

a plurality of fingers activatable to lift one of the discs from the tray within
its respective plane to thereby render the disc non-coaxial with other discs that
might be supported by the tray,

a pivot bar having a slidably mounted carriage beam from which said fingers
extend and a crank arm;

an indexing mechanism configured to cause the disc-raising mechanism to raise
others of said discs in a like manner;

an electric motor for pivoting the pivot bar;

a gearbox that reduces output speed of the electric motor and drives the pivot bar;

and

~~The disc storage unit of Claim 8 further comprising a cam mounted on the shaft and a~~
~~limit switch interacting with the cam~~ a limit switch,

wherein the gearbox comprises an output gear having an eccentric pin to which a
link is attached and said link is attached to said crank arm; and the indexing mechanism
comprises a shaft extending parallel to the pivot bar and driven by the output gear, having
one or more rings affixed thereto and extending thereabout, and a block interacting with
the carriage beam and having a plurality of pins extending therefrom, said pins interacting
with the rings to transfer the block and the carriage beam linearly along the pivot bar.

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)